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Message Text

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42
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SAM-01 SY-05 SCCT-01 EB-07

COME-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 /083 W
---------- 003344
P R 091800Z APR 76
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5277
INFO AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
US MISSION NATO 854
USEC BRUSSELS

UNCLAS MADRID 2787

E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, SP
SUBJECT: MURDER OF ETA KIDNAP HOSTAGE PROVOKES OUTCRY

1. THE ETA MURDER OF KIDNAP HOSTAGE ANGEL BERAZADI
HAS PRODUCED WIDE REVULSION NOT ONLY IN GOVERNMENT CIRCELS
BUT IN THE PRESS, AND, WE SUSPECT, THE MAN
IN THE STREET.

2. SPANISH EVENING TELEVISION NEWS CARRIED HEADLINE STORIES
FROM REPRESENTATIVE PAPERS THROUGHOUT SPAIN AND
WESTERN EUROPE, ALL EQUALLY CONDEMANTORY OF THE MURDER
IN COLD BLOOD OF THE BASQUE INDUSTRIALIST. THE MURDER
WAS HARSHLY CONDEMNED AS WELL BY THE BASQUE GOVERNMENT
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IN EXILE AND THE BASQUE NATIONALIST PARTY.

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3. "YA" (CATHOPDC INDEPENDENT) ASKED, AFTER WHAT HAD
HAPPENED, IF THERE WAS ANYONE WHO COULD CONSIDER
THE PERPETRATORS AS ANYTHING OTHER THAN CRIMINALS
OF THE MOST REPUGNANT SPECIES? IT FULLY SUPPORTED THE
GOVT'S ANTI-ERA CAMPAIGN: "WITH THE TERRORIST THERE
CAN NO COMPROMISES, WHICH WOULD ONLY BE COMPLICITY."
"ABC" (MONARCHIST) NOTED THAT ETA HAD NOT "AMNESTIED"
ITS HOSTAGE. IT SAID THAT THE AIM OF ETA WAS TO BRING
ON AN IRON DICTATORSHIP, A COMMUNIST "GULAG."
"ARRIBA" (NATIONAL MOVEMENT) CALLED FOR AN ISOLATION
OF THIS "CANCEROUS VIRUS" FROM THE BODY OF SOCIETY.
THE MURDER WAS CONDEMNED AS WELL BY A WIDE SPECTRUM
OF POLITICAL LEADERS. THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC JOSE
MARIA GIL ROBLES TERMED IT AN "ACT OF INCALCULABLE
BARBARITY." A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CONSERVATIVE "UNION
DEL PUEBLO ESPANOL" URGED THE GOVERNMENT TO INTENSIFY
ITS EFFORTS AGAINST TERROISM. THE SOCIALIST RAUL MORODO
CONDEMNED THE MURDER AND CALLED FOR A END TO VIOLENCE
AS A MEANS OF POLITICAL ACTIVITY. IN WHAT WAS REPORTED
AS A TURGIDLY WORDED STATEMENT, FELIPE GONZALEZ, LEADER
OF THE PSOE, CONDEMNED VIOLENCE AS A POLITICAL METHOD.

4. THE UBTERIOR MINISTER FRAGA, WHO HAD A WEEK AGO
ISSUED THE ORDER PROHIBITING NEGOTIATIONS WITH
KIDNAPPERS, RELEASED A STATEMENT WHICH WAS READ ON
SPANISH TELEVISION: THE GOVERNMENT ASSUMED FULL
RESPONSIBILITY FOR ITS DECISIONS, AND NOW THAT THE
TERRORISTS HAVE OPTED FOR WAR THEY WILL HAVE WAR.
A STATE BASED ON THE RULE OF LAW CANNOT JEOPARDIZE
THE LIVES OF ITS CITIZENS BY NEGOTIATING WITH THOSE WHO ARE
WILLING TO KILL IN COLD BLOOD FOR MONEY. THE GOVERNMENT CALLED
ON THE PEOPLE OF THE BASQUE PROVINCES TO CONDEMN THE
TERRORISTS AND TO ASSIST IN ENDING THE TERRORISM

5. THE SPANISH PRESS HAS REPORTED AS WELL WIDE RANGING POLICE
ACTION ON THE PART OF THE FRENCH. REPORTEDLY SEVERAL DOZEN ETA
MEMBERS HAVE BEEN PICKED UP AND QUESTIONED BY FRENCH POLICE IN SAN
JEAN DE LUZ, BIARRITZ, AND BAYONNE AND MUCH ARMS AND DOCUMENTATION
HAVE BEEN SEIZED. TEN OF THOSE QUESTIONED HAVE BEEN SHIPPED TO THE
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ISLAND OF YEU FOR AN INDEFINITE PERIOD OF CONFINEMENT. SHOULD THIS
ACTION UNDERTAKEN IN SEARCH OF THE TWO KIDNAPPED SPANISH POLICEMAN
MARK THE BEGINNING OF CLOSE
COOPERATION BETWEEN SPAIN AND FRANCE, AS THE EVENING PRESS SUGGESTS,
IN A ANTI-ETA CAMPAIGN, IT WOULD DEAL A SEVERAL BLOW TO ETA'S
SAFE HAVEN IN THE FRENCH BASQUE AREA.
STABLER

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